

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, Applicant respectfully requests entry of this Amendment after final Office Action. Applicant did not make the amendments earlier because we believed the previous amendments were sufficient. New rejections were raised by the final Office Action.

Rejection based on 35 U.S.C. 101

Claims 1-18, 20-37 and 39-40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as the feature "an option for foreign protocol integration for converting a node, without converting a protocol to support a dominant network protocol not native to the node" not being supported by a specific and substantial asserted utility.

To expedite prosecution of the application, applicants have deleted this feature from the current version of the claims. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Rejection based on 35 U.S.C. 112

Claims 1-18, 20-37 and 39-40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as the feature "an option for foreign protocol integration for converting a node, without converting a protocol to support a dominant network protocol not native to the node" failing to comply with the enablement requirement.

To expedite prosecution of the application, applicants have deleted this feature from the current version of the claims. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Rejection of the claims based on the Sheard reference

1. Claims 1-10, 14, 18, 20-31, 35, 37 and 39-40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,208,345 B1 to Sheard et al. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as amended overcome the rejection.

The Sheard reference teaches a visual data integration system architecture. The Office Action states that the Sheard reference business extension module #7, at col. 17, line 66 – col. 18, line 17 teaches an application layer. Office Action page 4. The

Sheard references sets forth that business extension module #7 may include a set of components that provide for building of sophisticated business management interfaces. The components and adapters of business extension module #7 may provide for the development of visual audit log, including the capability to define data structures and components to be archived for audit purposes. Other capabilities may include development of data exchange common object converters and stub generators (e.g., ASNI, IDL and GDMO). Col. 17, line 66 – col. 18, line 17. But neither the disclosure of business extension module #7 nor the remainder of the disclosure of Sheard discloses or suggests the features of the claimed application layer as amended.

The claims recite the management of the integration of a plurality of disparate components into a computing network. An integration framework is selected from an integration layer for integrating the disparate components, where the integration layer is selected from a plurality of integration layers including an application integration layer. The claims as amended recite that “the application integration layer comprises at least three styles of integration”. The three styles include “a first style that provides a shared application architecture and a shared content among access channels, a second style that provides a shared content among access channels but utilizes a unique application architecture for each of the access channels and a third style that provides a unique application architecture and unique content for each of the access channels”. Sheard neither discloses nor suggest such an application integration layer.

For at least this reason, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection to claims 1-10, 14, 18, 20-31, 35, 37 and 39-40 as amended be withdrawn.

2. Claims 11-12 and 32-33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,208,345 B1 to Sheard et al. in view of U.S. Application No. 2002/0035577 A1 to Bordersen et al.

Bordersen et al. disclose a method and system for collecting, storing and retrieving data in a database management system. The method and system maintain a partially replicated database in such a way that updates made to a central database, or to another partially replicated database are selectively propagated to the partially replicated database. Updates are propagated to the partially replicated database if the

owner of the partially replicated database is deemed to have visibility as determined by rules stored in a ruled database.

Claims 11-12 depend from claim 1 as amended, and claims 32-33 depend from claim 27 as amended. Neither Sheard et al. nor Bordersen et al., alone or in combination, disclose or suggest, the recited feature of an integration framework where “the application integration layer comprises at least three styles”. The three styles of the integration include “a first style that provides a shared application architecture and a shared content among access channels, a second style that provides a shared content among access channels but utilizes a unique application architecture for each of the access channels and a third style that provides a unique application architecture and unique content for each of the access channels”. Therefore, for at least this reason, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection to claims 11-12 and 32-33 be withdrawn.

3. Claims 13 and 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sheard et al. in view of Bordersen et al. and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,596,744 to Dao et al. Amendments to the claims overcome this rejection.

Dao et al. disclose an architecture and system which are flexible for integrated access to heterogeneous database management systems dispersed over a long haul network to allow access to a wide variety of database systems while maintaining an autonomous underlying database system.

Claim 13 depends from amended claim 1 and claim 34 depends from amended claim 27. Neither Sheard et al., Bordersen et al., nor Dao et al., alone or in combination, disclose or suggest, the recited feature of an integration framework where “the application integration layer comprises at least three styles”. The three styles of the integration include “a first style that provides a shared application architecture and a shared content among access channels, a second style that provides a shared content among access channels but utilizes a unique application architecture for each of the access channels and a third style that provides a unique application architecture and unique content for each of the access channels”. Therefore, for at least this reason, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection to claims 13 and 34 be withdrawn.

4. Claims 15-17 and 36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sheard et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,041,362 to Mears et al. Amendments to the claims overcome this rejection.

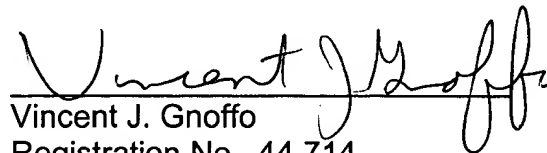
Mears et al. discloses a method and system that provides a web client interface that connects through an enterprise network to an application integrating server such as a Hyper-Text Transfer Protocol (HTTP) server.

Claims 15-17 depend from amended claim 1 and claim 36 depends from amended claim 27. Neither Sheard et al. nor Mears, alone or in combination, disclose or suggest, the recited feature of an integration framework where "the application integration layer comprises at least three styles". The three styles of the integration include "a first style that provides a shared application architecture and a shared content among access channels, a second style that provides a shared content among access channels but utilizes a unique application architecture for each of the access channels and a third style that provides a unique application architecture and unique content for each of the access channels". Therefore, for at least this reason, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection to claims 15-17 and 36 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance and notice to this effect is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned if it would expedite the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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